

Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13
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TO USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168866

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC, CB

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN DEMOCRATIC
KAMPUCHEA: MEETING WITH HRD DIRECTOR VAN BOVEN

REF: A. GENEVA 10036 (BEING REPEATED TO CANBERRA AND PARIS)
B. GENEVA 10037 (BEING REPEATED TO PARIS)

1. HA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SIEVERTS JULY 1 DISCUSSED
PREPARATIONS FOR UN HUMAN RIGHTS SUBCOMMISSION CONSIDERATION
OF CAMBODIA WITH CHARLES MEYER, FORMER ADVISER TO SIHANOUK,
AND FRANCOIS PONCHAUD, FRENCH PRIEST LONG RESIDENT IN PHNOM
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PENH, WHO CHRONICLED CURRENT REGIME'S HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLA-
TIONS IN HIS BOOK (JUST PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH) "CAMBODIA: THE
YEAR ZERO." MEETING WAS ARRANGED INFORMALLY AT MEYER'S
INITIATIVE, AND TOOK PLACE IN MEYER'S APARTMENT IN PARIS.

2. MEYER AND PONCHAUD KNEW OF UK RESOLUTION AT HRC MEETING
IN MARCH, BUT WERE UNAWARE OF MID-JULY DEADLINE FOR SUB-

MISSION OF MATERIAL IN PREPARATION FOR THE SUBCOMMISSION. BOTH HAD TAKEN PART IN THE OSLO TRIBUNAL AND WERE CONCERNED TO LEARN THAT THE TRIBUNAL IS APPARENTLY UNABLE TO SUBMIT MATERIAL IN TIME FOR THE AUGUST SESSION. BOTH SAID THEY WOULD TELEPHONE THE TRIBUNAL ORGANIZERS IN OSLO TO URGE THAT THEY SUBMIT AT LEAST A PARTIAL ACCOUNT BY JULY 15, THROUGH A GOVERNMENT OR AN AFFILIATED NGO.

3. MEYER SAID FRENCH GOVERNMENT WAS MOST UNLIKELY TO MAKE A SUBMISSION, WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED (IN CONFIDENCE) TO A POLICY DECISION BY GISCARD THAT FRANCE SHOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS ISSUE. MEYER SAID HE WOULD FIND OUT, HOWEVER, WHO WOULD BE THE FRENCH PARTICIPANT IN THE AUGUST SESSION, AND WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO PERSUADE THE REPRESENTATIVE (IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY) NOT TO BE MUTE ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. PONCHAUD SAID HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE AUGUST SESSION HIMSELF, AND SAID HE MIGHT TALK TO ICJ OR ANOTHER AFFILIATED NGO TO SEE IF HE COULD GET OBSERVER STATUS. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE HIS BOOK SUBMITTED AS EVIDENCE.

VANCE

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